CLAIMS

1.   A method for providing networked karaoke entertainment, comprising:

determining whether an accounting polling event has occurred and, if so, uploading accounting information to a remote server;

providing a requested karaoke content to a local karaoke unit; and

creating an accounting entry concerning the provision of said karaoke content to said local karaoke unit.

2.   A method for providing networked karaoke entertainment as recited in claim 31 further comprising determining whether said requested karaoke content is available locally and, if not, obtaining said requested karaoke content from said remote server.

3.   A method as recited in claim 1 wherein providing the requested karaoke content further comprises providing the requested karaoke content to a plurality of local karaoke units.

4.   A method as recited in claim 1 wherein providing the requested karaoke content further includes using a content mirror site.

5.   A method as recited in claim 1 further including performing an operation to transfer information.

6.   A method as recited in claim 1 wherein determining whether an accounting polling event has occurred further includes determining whether a request has been made.

7. A method for providing networked karaoke entertainment as recited in claim 1 wherein at least one local karaoke unit:

receives a plurality of video frames which include images of at least one karaoke performer;

subtracts background images from said video frames to create extracted images of said at least one karaoke performer;

performs an analysis of at least one of the position and motion of said extracted images to provide a visual performer input; and

provides background images with accompanying sound, at least one of which is affected, by said visual performer input.

8. A computer readable media storing program instructions implementing the method of claim 1.

9. A system for providing networked interactive karaoke entertainment, comprising:

a network configured to provide a requested karaoke content to a local karaoke unit; and

a processor configured to determine whether an accounting polling event has occurred and, if so, to upload accounting information to a remote server, and to create an accounting entry concerning the provision of said karaoke content to said local karaoke unit.

10. A system as recited in claim 9 wherein the processor is further configured to determine whether said requested karaoke content is available locally and, if not, to obtain said requested karaoke content from said remote server.

11. A system as recited in claim 9 wherein at least one local karaoke unit includes a processor configured to receive a plurality of video frames which include images of at least one karaoke performer, to subtract background images from said video frames to create extracted images of said at least one karaoke performer, to perform an analysis of at least one of the position and motion of said extracted images to provide a visual performer input, and to provide background images with accompanying sound, at least one of which is affected, by said visual performer input.

12. A system as recited in claim 9 further including a plurality of interactive karaoke entertainment systems.

13. A system as recited in claim 9 further including a control process.

14. A system as recited in claim 9 further including a karaoke module.

15. A system as recited in claim 14 wherein the karaoke module is integrated with an audio system.

16. A system as recited in claim 14 wherein the karaoke module is integrated with a video system.

17. A system as recited in claim 14 wherein the karaoke module is integrated with an audio and a video module.

18. A system as recited in claim 14 wherein the requested karaoke content can be transferred by the karaoke module over the network to a remote karaoke unit.

19. A system as recited in claim 14 wherein the karaoke module is integrated with the local karaoke unit.